

- 7
- Sub D1
B cont
- c) contacting the TLR-4 polypeptide with a putative modulator; [and]
 - d) assaying for a change in the standard activity profile[.]; and
 - e) comparing the standard activity profiles of the TLR-4 polypeptide obtained in steps b) and d) above

wherein a difference in the standard activity profiles indicates that the putative modulator is a modulator of a lipopolysaccharide mediated response.

Sub D3
B2

52. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein said putative modulator affects the [function] functioning of TLR-4 in the lipopolysaccharide pathway.

B3

62. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein [said nucleic acid segment] the TLR-4 polypeptide and putative modulator are maintained under conditions that normally allow for TLR-4 transcription and translation.

B4

67. (Amended) The method of claim 65, wherein said natural source is selected from the group consisting of animals, bacteria, fungi, plant sources and living marine samples.

Please add the following claim:

B5

100. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the TLR-4 polypeptide has the amino acid sequence selected from the group comprising SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:98 and SEQ ID NO:99.

add D4

Please cancel claims 76-99.